



**Disabled Access Regulations**  
**Entrances, Exits and Doors**  
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**INFORMATION  
BULLETIN  
507  
June 2001**

**NOTE:** For the purpose of Title 24, the use of the term Exit Door in Section 1004 applies to all doors that provide access, that is, entrances, passage doors, etc.

All entrances and all exterior ground floor exit doors to buildings and facilities shall be made accessible to persons with disabilities. **Sec. 1133B.1.1.1.1.**

Revolving doors shall not be used as a required entrance for persons with disabilities. **Sec. 1133B.2.3.3.**

During periods of partial or restricted use of a building or facility, the entrances used for primary access shall be accessible to and usable by persons with disabilities. **Sec. 1133B.1.1.1.2.**

All gates, including ticket gates, shall meet all applicable accessibility specifications of doors. **Sec. 1133B.1.1.1.4.**

Latching and locking doors that are hand-activated and which are in a path of travel shall be operable with a single effort by lever type hardware, panic bars, push-pull activating bars, or other hardware designed to provide passage without requiring the ability to grasp the opening hardware. Locked exit doors shall operate as above in egress direction. **Sec. 1133B.2.5.1.**

Doors to individual hotel or motel units shall operate similarly, to above, except that when a bolt and unlatching operation is key operated from corridor or exterior side of unit door, large bow keys 2" (full bow) or 1-1/4" (half bow) shall be provided in lieu of lever type hardware on the corridor side. Separate deadlock activation on room side of corridor doors in hotels or motels shall have lever handle or large thumb turn on an easily reached location. **Sec. 1133B.2.5.1.**

Hand-activated door opening hardware shall be centered between 30" and 44" above the floor. **Sec. 1133B.2.5.1.**

The width and height of doorways shall comply with Section 1003.3.1.3.1. Every required exit doorway shall be of a size as to permit the installation of a door not less than 3 feet (914 mm) in width and not less than 6 feet 8 inches (2032 mm) in height. When installed in exit doorways, exit doors shall be capable of opening at least 90 degrees and shall be so mounted that the clear width of the exit is not less than 32 inches (813 mm). **Sec. 1133B.2.2, Fig. 11B-33(a).**

For hinged doors, the opening width shall be measured with the door positioned at an angle of 90 degrees from its closed position. **Sec. 1133.2.3 & Fig. 11B-33(a).**

Where a pair of doors is utilized, at least one of the doors shall provide a clear, unobstructed opening width of 32" with the leaf positioned at an angle of 90 degrees from its closed position. **Sec. 1133.2.3.1.**

When an automatic door operator is utilized to operate a pair of doors, at least one of the doors shall provide a clear, unobstructed opening width of 32" with the leaf positioned at an angle of 90 degrees from its closed position. **Sec. 1133B.2.3.2.**

Minimum maneuvering clearances at doors shall be as shown in Figures 11B-26A & B. The floor or ground area within the required clearances shall be level and clear. **Sec. 1133B.2.4.2.**

There shall be a level and clear floor landing on each side of a door. The level area shall have a length in the direction of door swing of at least 60" and the length opposite the direction of door swing of 48" as measured at right angle to the plane of the door in its closed position. **Sec. 1133B.2.4.2 & Figs. 11B-26 A & B.**

Where the door opens into a stair of a smoke-proof enclosure, the landing need not have a length of 60". **Sec. 1133B.1.1.1.1 Exception 1.**

The width of the level area on the side to which the door swings shall extend a minimum of 24" past the strike edge of the door for exterior doors and a minimum of 18" past the strike edge for interior doors. Additional 12" is required at the push side, if door is equipped with both latch and closer. **Sec. 1133B.2.4.3 & Figs. 11B-26 A & B.**

The floor or landing shall be not more than 1/2" lower than the threshold of the doorway. **Sec. 1133B.2.4.1 & Fig. 11B-32.**

In existing stairways where there is no landing, doors shall be conspicuously marked with a sign stating, "Danger!" Stairway-No Landing" or equivalent wording and there shall be adequate illumination. **Sec. 1003.3.1.6.2a Exception 5.**

The space between two consecutive door openings in a vestibule, serving other than a required exit stairway, shall provide a minimum of 48" of clear space from any door opening into such vestibule when the door is positioned at an angle of 90 degrees from its closed position. Doors in a series shall swing either in the same direction or away from the space between the doors. See Figures 11B-30 & 11B-31 for design alternatives. **Sec. 1133B.2.4.4.**

The bottom 10" of all doors except automatic and sliding shall have a smooth, uninterrupted surface to allow the door to be opened by a wheelchair footrest without creating a trap or hazardous condition. Where narrow frame doors are used, a 10" high smooth panel shall be installed on the push side of the door, which will allow the door to be opened by a wheelchair footrest without creating a trap or hazardous condition. **Sec. 1133B.2.6 & Fig. 11B-29.**

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Recessed doormats shall be adequately anchored to prevent interference with wheelchair traffic. **Sec. 1133B.1.1.1.3 & Fig. 11B-25.**

Maximum effort to operate doors shall not exceed 8-1/2 pounds for exterior doors, and 5 pounds for interior doors, such pull or push effort being applied at right angles to hinged doors and at the center plane of sliding or folding doors. Compensating devices or automatic door operators may be utilized to meet the above standards. When fire doors are required, the maximum effort to operate the door may be increased to the maximum allowable by the appropriate administrative authority, not to exceed 15 pounds. **Sec. 1133B.2.5.**

Where turnstiles and crowd control barriers are utilized in a facility for the purpose of providing fully controlled access, such as where an admission price is charged, a door or gate that is accessible to persons with disabilities shall be provided adjacent to each turnstile exit or entrance. This alternate passageway shall be maintained in unlocked condition during business hours and the door or gate shall not activate a publicly audible alarm system. The door or gate may be latched where all gates are restricted and controlled by an attendant and a sign is posted stating, "All gates are restricted and controlled by an attendant."

Where posts, rails, or other pedestrian controls are utilized to create crowd control aisles or lanes, a minimum of one lane shall be accessible and shall provide a minimum aisle width no less than indicated in figure 11B-5E (a) and (b) with 32 inches (818 mm) of clear opening. **Sec. 1133B.2.3.4.**

#### AREAS FOR EVACUATION ASSISTANCE

NOTE: Areas of Evacuation Assistance are not required in buildings or facilities having a supervised automatic sprinkler system. **Sec. 1114B.2.1 Exception 1.**

NOTE: In alterations of existing buildings, Areas of Evacuation Assistance are not required. **Sec. 1114B.2.1 Exception 2.**

In buildings or portions of buildings required to be accessible, accessible means of egress shall be provided in the same number as required for exits by Chapter 10. **Sec. 1114B.2.1.**

When an exit required by Chapter 10 is not accessible, an area for evacuation assistance shall be provided and shall adjoin an accessible route of travel. **Sec. 1114B.2.1.**

An area for evacuation assistance complying with Sec. 1114B.2.2.1 shall be provided.

Each area for evacuation assistance shall provide at least two accessible areas that are not less than 30" by 48". The area for evacuation assistance shall not encroach on any required exit width. The total number of such 30" by 48" areas per story shall be not less than one for every 200 persons of calculated occupant load served by the area for evacuation assistance. **Sec. 1114B.2.2.2.**

Each stairway adjacent to an area for evacuation assistance shall have a minimum clear width of 48" between handrails. **Sec. 1114B.2.2.3.**

A method of two-way communication with both visible and audible communication shall be provided between each area of evacuation assistance and the primary entrance. A button in the area of rescue assistance shall activate both a light in the area of rescue assistance indicating that rescue has been requested and a light at the primary entry indicating that rescue is being requested. A button at the primary entry shall activate both a light at the primary entry and a light in the area of rescue assistance indicating that the request has been received. A telephone with controlled access to a public telephone system or another method of two-way communication shall be provided between each area of refuge and the primary building entry. The fire department may approve a location other than the primary entry. **Sec. 1114B.2.2.4.2.**

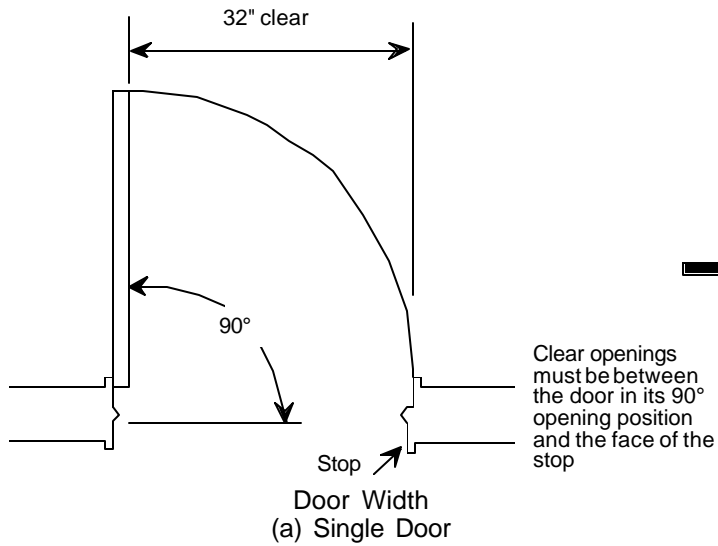
Each area for evacuation assistance shall be identified by a sign, which states, "AREA FOR EVACUATION ASSISTANCE" and the international Symbol of Accessibility. The sign shall be illuminated when exit sign illumination is required. In each area for evacuation assistance, instructions on the use of the area under emergency conditions shall be posted adjoining the two-way communication system. **Sec. 1114B.2.2.5.**

Within a building of any height or occupancy constructed in accordance with the requirements of Sections 403.1 through 403.10, an area for evacuation assistance may be located in the elevator lobby (high-rise alternative) when: **Sec. 1114B.2.3.**

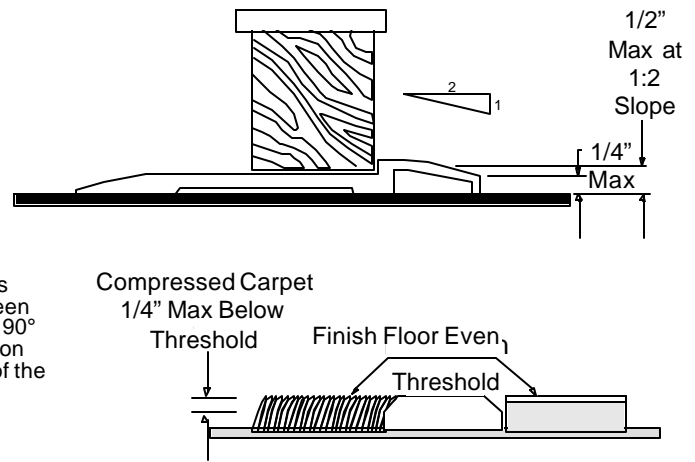
The area for evacuation assistance complies with the requirements for size, two-way communication, and identification as specified in Section 1114B.2.2; and

Elevator shafts and adjacent lobbies are pressurized as required for smoke-proof enclosures in Section 1005.3.3. Such pressurization system shall be activated by smoke detectors on each floor located in a manner approved by the building official.

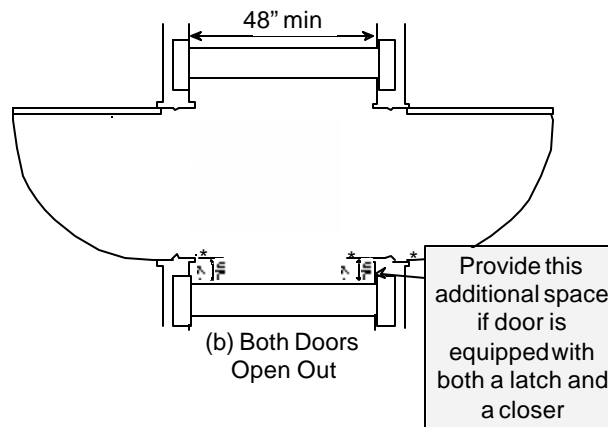
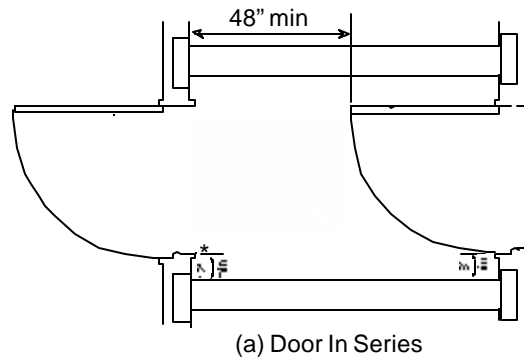
Pressurization equipment and its ductwork within the building shall be separated from other portions of the building by a minimum two-hour fire-resistive construction.



**Figure 11B-5B(a)**

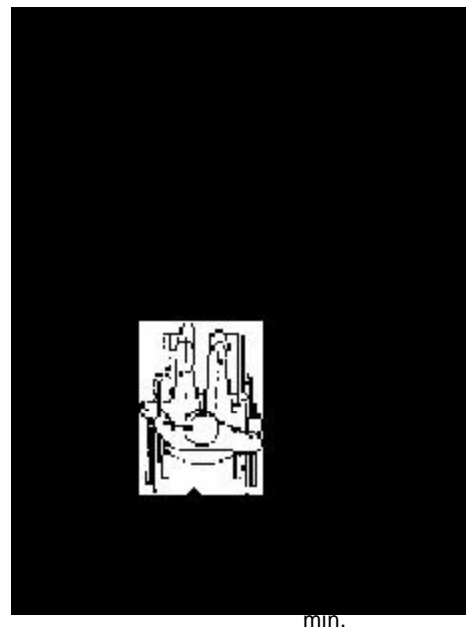


**Figure 11B-32**



(SERVING OTHER THAN A REQUIRED EXIT STAIRWAY)

**Figure 11B-30**

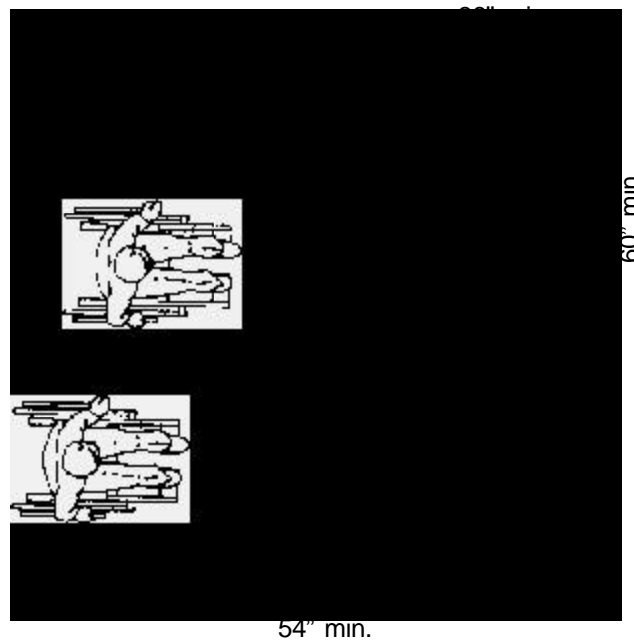


exterior doors  
interior doors

Provide this additional space if door is equipped with both a latch and a closer

Level Maneuvering Clearance at Doors  
(a) Front Approach

**Figure 11B-26(a)**



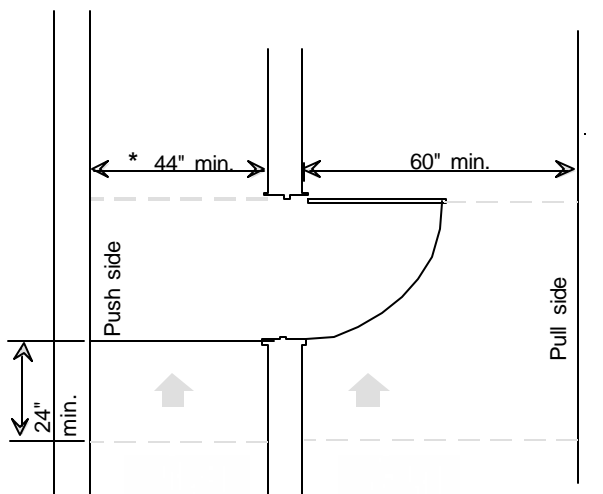
60" min.

54" min.

\*NOTE: 48" Minimum if door has both a latch and a closer.

Level Maneuvering Clearance at Doors  
(b) Hinge Approach

**Figure 11B-26(b)**



\* Note: 48" minimum if door has closer.

Level Maneuvering Clearance at Doors  
(c) Latch Approach

**Figure 11B-26(c)**